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Bechtel Pueblo Team Announces Management Change at PCAPP Project

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U.S. ARMY PUEBLO CHEMICAL DEPOT, Colo. – Effective May 13, Rick Holmes will become the new Bechtel Pueblo Team project manager for the Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (PCAPP) project.

Current Project Manager Doug Omichinski will become the new Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass project manager overseeing Pueblo's sister project, the Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant in Richmond, Ky.

Holmes joined the PCAPP project in June 2012, lending his expertise to operations preparation and execution. Before joining the project, he served as the project manager for the Department of Energy National Nuclear Security Administration's Chemistry and Metallurgy Research Replacement project at Los Alamos National Laboratory – a \$3.5 to \$5.8 billion set of facilities to support plutonium science. He led the effort to deliver a radiological laboratory facility ahead of schedule and under budget.

Holmes has more than 15 years experience in the Army's chemical weapons destruction program as an officer, civilian and manager. He was the deputy project manager at the Aberdeen Chemical Agent Disposal Facility and oversaw the efforts to implement Project Speedy Neut , which involved the safe destruction of more than 1,620 tons of HD (mustard) agent stored in steel containers at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., following the events of Sept. 11, 2001.

A certified project management professional with a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Florida Southern College, Holmes also holds a master's degree in chemical engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

"We are proud of what Doug has accomplished," said PCAPP Site Project Manager Bruce Huenefeld. "I can certainly understand the company's desire to utilize his experience with chemical demilitarization and share his expertise in Kentucky. I've gotten to know Rick over the past several months as well, and I look forward to his leadership in Pueblo."

Omichinski has more than 30 years experience in design-build projects. As a member of the original proposal team for the PCAPP project, he has also served as the construction manager, design-build manager and deputy project manager before being named project manager in 2011.

PCAPP construction was completed on Dec. 12, 2012. It is currently in the systemization, or testing, phase. After agent operations are complete, it will be closed under a contract that was awarded in 2002 to the Bechtel Pueblo Team. The project is overseen by Program Executive Office, Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives, which is responsible directly to the Department of Defense for the safe and environmentally sound destruction of the chemical stockpiles at both Pueblo and the Blue Grass Army Depot in Richmond, Ky.